Appln. No. 09/977,170 Amdmt & Resp dated April 8, 2005

Response to Final Office Action. of Jan. 21, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

A detailed listing of all the claims that are, or were, in the application is presented below. Current amendments to the claims, including additions being shown by underlining and deletions being shown by strikethrough or double brackets, are expressed in the listing.

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Previously Presented) A sheet comprising a consolidated layer formed from a blend, the blend comprising a first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles, wherein the jaspe agglomerated particles of the first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles comprise a first particle from a first plurality of particles having a first visual characteristic and a second particle from a second plurality of particles having a second visual characteristic different than the visual characteristic of the first particle and wherein all of the surfaces of the jaspe agglomerated particles are irregular.
- 2. (Previously Presented) The sheet of claim 1, wherein the first plurality of particles having a first visual characteristic has an amount of filler level different from the amount of filler level of the second plurality of particles having a second visual characteristic.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

4. (Currently Amended) [[The]] A sheet of claim 6 comprising a consolidated layer formed from a blend, the blend comprising a first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles, wherein the jaspe agglomerated particles of the first plurality of jaspe

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are irregular.

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first visual characteristic and a second particle from a second plurality of particles having a second visual characteristic different than the visual characteristic of the first particle, wherein the first plurality of particles having a first visual characteristic includes a first thermoplastic material and the second plurality of particles having a second visual characteristic includes a first thermoplastic material and the second plurality of particles having a second visual characteristic includes a second thermoplastic material different than the first [[are]] thermoplastic material, and wherein all of the surfaces of the jaspe agglomerated particles

- 5. (Currently Amended) [[The]] A sheet of claim 6 comprising a consolidated layer formed from a blend, the blend comprising a first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles, wherein the jaspe agglomerated particles of the first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles comprise a first particle from a first plurality of particles having a first visual characteristic and a second particle from a second plurality of particles having a second visual characteristic different than the visual characteristic of the first particle, wherein the first plurality of particles having a first visual characteristic includes a first material comprises comprising a polymer having a first average molecular weight and the second plurality of particles having a second visual characteristic includes a second material comprises comprising a polymer having a second average molecular weight and wherein all of the surfaces of the jaspe agglomerated particles are irregular.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The sheet of claim 1, wherein the first plurality of particles having a first visual characteristic includes a first material and the second

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plurality of particles having a second visual characteristic includes a second material different than the first material.

- 7. (Previously Presented) The sheet of claim 1, wherein the particles of the first plurality of particles having a first visual characteristic are transparent or translucent.
- 8. (Previously Presented) The sheet of claim 1, wherein the blend further comprises a second plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles, the second plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles having a visual characteristic different than the visual characteristic of the first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles, wherein the jaspe agglomerated particles of the second plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles comprise a third particle from a third plurality of particles having a third visual characteristic and a fourth particle from a fourth plurality of particles having a fourth visual characteristic different than the visual characteristic of the first, second and third particles, and wherein all of the surfaces of the jaspe agglomerated particles of the second plurality are irregular.

Claims 9 to 16 (Canceled).

17. (Previously Presented) A method of forming a sheet comprising:

forming a first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles wherein all of the surfaces of the jaspe agglomerated particles are irregular by agglomerating a first plurality of particles having a first visual characteristic and a second plurality of particles having a

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second visual characteristic different than the visual characteristic of the first plurality of particles;

forming a blend comprising the first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles; and consolidating the blend to form a layer having a jaspe visual appearance.

- 18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the first plurality of particles and the second plurality of particles comprise a thermoplastic polymeric material.
- 19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the blend is consolidated to form a layer by pressing in a roll press, a flat bed press or belted press.
 - 20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the roll press is a calender.
- 21. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the belted press is a double belted press.
- 22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles is formed, a second plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles is formed, and then the first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles is mixed to form the blend, the jaspe agglomerated particles of the second plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles having a visual characteristic different than the visual characteristic of the jaspe agglomerated particles of the first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles, wherein the

jaspe agglomerated particles of the second plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles comprise a third particle from a third plurality of particles having a third visual characteristic and a fourth particle from a fourth plurality of particles having a fourth visual characteristic different than the visual characteristic of the first, second and third particles, and wherein all of the surfaces of the jaspe agglomerated particles of the second plurality are irregular.

Claim 23 (Canceled).

- 24. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising grinding the jaspe agglomerated particles.
- 25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the visually different characteristics include the first plurality of particles having a first color and the second plurality of particles having a second color.
- 26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the visually different characteristics include the first plurality of particles having a first shade of a color and the second plurality of particles having a second shade of the color.
- 27. (Currently Amended) [[The]] A method of claim 17, forming a sheet comprising

forming a first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles wherein all of the surfaces

of the jaspe agglomerated particles are irregular by agglomerating a the visually different

characteristics results from the first plurality of particles having a first visual

characteristic comprising a first polymeric material having a first number average

molecular weight and [[the]] a second plurality of particles having a second visual

characteristic different than the visual characteristic of the first plurality of particles

comprising a second polymeric material having a second number average molecular

weight,

forming a blend comprising the first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles, and

consolidating the blend to form a layer having a jaspe visual appearance.

Claim 28 (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the particles of the

first plurality of particles having a first visual characteristic are transparent or translucent.

Claims 30 to 39 (Canceled).

40. (Previously Presented) The sheet of claim 1, wherein all of the interfaces

between jaspe agglomerated particles are labyrinthine.

Claim 41 (Canceled).

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42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the particles forming the first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles melt and flow to form a labyrinthine interface between all of the jaspe agglomerated particles during the consolidating step.

Claim 43 (Canceled).

44. (Previously Presented) The sheet of claim 1, wherein the first particle and the second particle are agglomerated particles.

Claim 45 (Canceled).

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the first plurality of particles having a first visual characteristic and the second plurality of particles having a second visual characteristic are agglomerated particles.

Claim 47 (Canceled).

- 48. (Previously Presented) The sheet of claim 1, wherein the first particle and the second particle are dry blend particles.
- 49. (Previously Presented) The sheet of claim 8, wherein the particles comprising second plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles are dry blend particles.

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- 50. (Previously Presented) The sheet of claim 49, wherein the first particle and the second particle of the first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles are dry blend particles.
- 51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the first plurality of particles and the second plurality of particles are dry blend particles.
- 52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the particles comprising the second plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles are dry blend particles.
- 53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the first plurality of particles and the second plurality of particles of the first plurality of jaspe agglomerated particles are dry blend particles.
- 54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the first plurality of particles having a first visual characteristic has an amount of filler level different from the amount of filler level of the second plurality of particles having a second visual characteristic.
- 55. (Previously Presented) The sheet of claim 1, wherein the visually different characteristics include the first plurality of particles having a first shade of a color and the second plurality of particles having a second shade of the color.